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Cabaret

Elita Denowitz

I once heard it said that "life is a cabaret," but I didn't understand. A cabaret, which is a dinner theater type place, showed no similarities to my life. However, as I grew older, I began to discover things about myself and my surroundings that made me realize that life is like a cabaret, and we are both the audience and the performers.

When I was younger, I wanted to be a doctor. I believed that the best thing in life was seeing other people happy, and by helping them, I could accomplish this. Throughout that year in my life, I began to notice that there were other things that I could do to make people happy. My whole life I had enjoyed singing and, while my voice as a small child was shrill and out of tune, my voice grew a little stronger and more melodious each year. The older I grew and the more defined and powerful my voice became, the more I realized that my talent could help me to go places that I had never even dreamed of.

By the time I was thirteen, I had played many lead roles in musicals and I had begun to compete in my school's speech and debate program, winning several honors and awards. My success in the performing arts department gave me a sense of confidence and assurance in me and my talents.

At that time, my dream was to be a rock star.

As I grew, however, I became much more aware of the other opportunities available to someone with my talent. The dream of a rock star began to fade, and the theater began to take shape in my mind. I had found my niche in the world, and it was called Broadway.

Until then, what I wanted out of life was a mystery, but by the time I turned sixteen I realized that all I wanted was happiness, and the only way to achieve that was by being on stage. The more performances I did, the better I felt. While the kids I knew were getting high on drugs, I got high on the feeling of being on stage, in front of an audience and hearing the deafening roar of applause.

While my voice is not what's right about my life, it helps to keep my life right. It helps to give me a sense of direction about what I want out of life. It made me realize that "life is a Cabaret, old chum, so come to the Cabaret."